Monday, January 7, 1952.

I had a talk with Bob McBride this morning, who is returning to Washington later in the month to take over the French desk in the Department.

Messrs. Pierre Baraduc and Urey from Monnet's office came to see me. They discussed the situation about the French military budget. They are studying it and are costing and screening proposed military expenditures. They have promised to make their figures available to our Committee later this week, in accordance with the understanding I reached with M. Bidault.

I had a sandwich in the office, and afterwards passed out some Honor Awards to State Department personnel who had served for long periods, ranging from ten to thirty years.

The Greek Ambassador called. He wanted me to help, if possible, in persuading the French Government to regard the ratification by the French Parliament of the entry of Greece and Turkey into NATO as a matter of urgency. He said, however, he was discouraged since on his

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way here he had heard on the radio that the Socialist deputies would vote against the government this afternoon. If this is true, the government would certainly fall.

Paul Porter and Jimmy Riddleberger came to see me to tell me what they had done toward stimulating the output of coal in Great Britain and Germany, as well as what plans they had in mind for the future. It seems Mr. Stikker wishes to have a small committee composed of himself, Lord Leathers of England, and Erhardt of Germany, to deal with this problem. The French want representation on this committee.

We had a meeting of the country team with representatives from the Embassy, MSA French Mission and MAAG in the Wallace Library. I announced that Harry Labouisse would shortly be named - in addition to his present function as Chief of MSA Mission - Minister in charge of Economic Affairs at the Embassy. ~~I proposed that he~~ become Vice Chairman of this committee and replace me at such times as I could not preside over its meetings.

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We had quite a discussion of the offshore procurement program in France, and how it should be handled. We proposed to create a Secretariat for the country team which will routinize and coordinate the operations of the respective parties in it.

To-night we had a [redacted] dinner at the house with the following people:

Lord Tweedsmuir
M. Henri Bernstein
Mr. Drew Dudley
Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Chambers
Comte & Comtesse Raoul de Lubersac
Comte & Comtesse François de Rose
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Carter
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Reinhardt
Comte Robert de Billy
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Fisher
Comte de Rohan Chabot
Colonel Richard Walters

The Pleven Ministry fell this evening by a vote of 341 to 243. Socialists opposed the government measure designed to give the cabinet authority to attack the deficit in the nationalized railway system and in the Social Security organization. The deficit in the railways for this calendar year may amount to as much as four hundred million dollars, that in the Social Security organization

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in excess of one hundred million dollars. This action in overthrowing the government displays a shocking sense of irresponsibility on the part of the deputies who voted against the government. Nothing could be more calculated at this particular juncture to impair the prestige of France. One cannot foretell what the effect will be on the fate of the European Army, and how it will affect the program for the meeting at Lisbon.

General Eisenhower announced this afternoon that he had no intention of leaving SHAPE to participate in a pre-Convention Presidential campaign at home. He said, however, that he was a Republican, and if the Republican nomination were tendered to him he would accept it, and run for the Presidency. He added that those who wish to support him in pre-Convention activities were free to do so.

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